

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. Claims 1-19 were allowed by the Examiner in a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due dated July 13, 2004. Claim 1 as presented herein, incorporates the Examiner's amendment made in the Notice of Allowance. Claim 11 is amended by virtue of this amendment. Support for the amendment to claim 11 may be found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed. For example, support for the amendment to claim 11 may be found at paragraphs 25 and 26 (pages 6-8).

With respect to all amendments and cancelled claims (and/or subject matter related thereto), Applicants have not dedicated or abandoned any unclaimed subject matter and moreover have not acquiesced to any rejections and/or objections made by the Patent Office. Applicants reserve the right to pursue prosecution of any such subject matter in future continuation and/or divisional application.

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and an Information Disclosure Statement. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

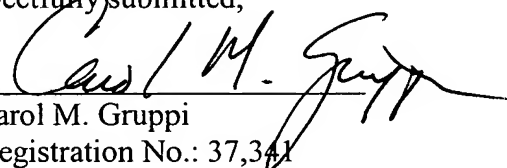
If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 514942000110. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: October 13, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By


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